



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
16 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04330



. KING, JR.
ERNOR

MICHAEL F. KELLY
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting
Maine EMS Conference Room
April 3, 2002

MINUTES

Members Present: Leo Bouchard (Chair), Sue Young, Oden Cassidy, Penelope Stevens, Peter DiPietrantonio, Jim McKenney, Richard Doughty, Paul Knowlton, Kevin Kendall, Robert Ashby, Charles Little, Bill Dunwoody, Alan Azzara

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Rick Petrie

Staff: Dwight Corning Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Jay Bradshaw, Laura Yustak Smith, Esq. (AAG)

1. Introductions

None needed.

2. Approval of March 6, 2002, meeting minutes.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of March 6, 2002. (Little; second by Dunwoody). Unanimous.

3. Old Business

a. Legislative Update

Jay reported that the Legislature approved extending the deadline for AVOC training until January 1, 2005, and to create a position for a training agent at MEMS. The process to hire the training agent will begin in May so that hopefully by the time the law takes effect (estimated to be late July), the application and interview process will have been completed.

In other Legislative action, the Resolve requiring the MDPB to review the administration of Epinephrine (via auto-injector) by Basic EMTs was passed and signed into law. The MDPB began its discussion on this topic in March and will continue during the coming months. MEMS is required to provide a progress report to the Legislature during its next regular session in 2003.

At an informal work session, the Criminal Justice Committee decided not to pursue legislation during this session to change the composition of the Board of EMS; however, Rep. Edgar Wheeler was successful in getting a Joint Order that directed the Criminal Justice Committee to report out just such a bill. No hearing date has been scheduled, yet. But it is likely that such a hearing will be held on very short notice given that the Legislature is in its final weeks.

4. New Business

a. Investigations Committee

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session to discuss pending investigations and consent agreements (Dunwoody; second by Leach) Unanimous

Executive session began at 9:40 AM

MOTION: To exit Executive Session (Stevens; second by Little) Unanimous

Executive session ended at 10:20 AM.

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation regarding case # 01-13 (Little; second by Kendall) Unanimous

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation regarding case # 96-04 (Little; second by Stevens) Unanimous

MOTION: To accept the Investigation Committee's recommendation regarding the Consent Agreement with Amy Martin (Little; second by DiPietrantonio). Unanimous

MOTION: To ratify the Investigation Committee minutes of March 6, 2002. (McKenney; second by Dunwoody). Unanimous

MOTION: To initiate investigation into case # 02-06 (Dunwoody; second by Leach) Unanimous

Dawn Kinney reported that a request for an informal review has been received from George Ryder and that this will be scheduled for May 1, 2002.

MOTION: To have the Investigations Committee conduct the Informal Review with George Ryder. (Little; second by Stevens). Unanimous

b. Operations Team Action Items

The Operations Team met April 2, 2002, and spent considerable time working on the matter of regional permissions ("stickering"). Significant progress has been made in this area. There is still work that needs to be done to define the core curriculum and the scope of practice for each license level.

c. Rules Revision Committee

If a sufficient number of participants are able to attend, there will be a meeting on April 17, 2002, @ 1:00 PM. Because this is a conflict with school vacation week, this meeting may be postponed until May; however, the goal for finishing and submitting a draft to the Board is still June 2002.

d. Waiver request – Raymond Chavarie

Drexell reviewed the waiver request for Raymond Chavarie. Mr. Chavarie is a registered nurse who was active in EMS for several years, but whose license expired in October 1998. Due to the changes that have taken place in Windsor over the past several months, Mr. Chavarie is interested in obtaining another license and is requesting to be able to do so following completion of an appropriate refresher course. Staff recommendation is to approve the waiver.

MOTION: To approve the waiver of §xxxx in the matter of Raymond Chavarie and allow him to relicense at the Basic EMT level following successful completion of a basic EMS refresher, and to allow him to relicense at the EMT-Intermediate level following successful completion of an ACLS course. (Little; second by Leach). Approved with one abstention (Dunwoody)

e. Other – None at this time

4. Staff Reports

a. Office

Jay reported that he is preparing a grant application to submit to HRSA. One of the requirements is that there be an individual formally identified as the Trauma Systems Manager. This has been the responsibility of the EMS Director since the Trauma Advisory Committee was established, and the request is that this be formalized by the Board.

MOTION: To identify the Maine EMS Director as the Trauma Systems Manager. (Little; second by Dunwoody). Unanimous.

Dwight reported that the EMSC Committee is meeting regularly and working on the goals of the EMSC grant that was recently awarded. Dwight will be attending the EMSC Congress in Dallas, TX, later this month as required (and funded) by the grant.

Jay reported that he has been invited to participate in a technical assistance site visit to Alaska EMS. He will be one of three EMS directors from rural states that will be in Juneau the week of May 6-10.

Drexell White will be representing MEMS at a Homeland Security Retreat that will be held in Bangor, May 6-9. The goal of this retreat is to develop a state strategy for homeland security. Participants will include state, county, and local governments, public safety responders, emergency management agencies, etc.

b. MDPB

Dr. Kendall reported that the MDPB has begun discussion the Epinephrine issue as previously described. There was also considerable discussion on the protocol for activating LifeFlight of Maine (LOM). There are differing opinions from the regional medical directors as to whether it is necessary or beneficial to require that EMS providers contact medical control before contacting LOM. Jay will be meeting with Drs. Burton, Smith, Diaz, and Collamore in the coming weeks to try and address the various concerns about activation and quality assurance.

There will be no April MDPB meeting. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15, 2002 @ 9:30 at Maine EMS.

5. Other

Dr. Little raised a concern about the wording on the DNR forms that made it confusing for patients who may be able to understand the document, but are unable to sign (e.g. a stroke patient). Jay said he would make a note of that point and attempt to make corrections to the forms for the next printing.

Penelope Stevens commented on concerns that have arisen in Lincoln about the school board developing policies on DNR at schools. Similar concerns have arisen in other areas (most notably in Lewiston many years ago), but it is clear in the law and rules that EMS providers must follow the Maine EMS protocols in responding to such calls. In cases where there appears to be conflicting documentation, EMS providers should contact medical control ASAP.

The May 1, Board meeting will have an abbreviated business agenda. The main topic for the meeting will be WMD/Terrorism Awareness training. This training program will be conducted by MEMA instructors and take approximately 3 hours. Lunch will be provided for those participating in the training session.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35.